



FARRINGTON HIGHWAY CORRIDOR STUDY

Virtual Q&A Session 1 – ‘Āina Meetings Round 3, Wai‘anae to Mākaha

Time: 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Date: Thursday, July 16, 2020

Event Description

This virtual question and answer (Q&A) session was part of the third and final round of community ‘Āina meetings for the Hawai‘i State Department of Transportation (HDOT) Farrington Highway Corridor Study. This Q&A session was conducted for and focused on the Wai‘anae to Mākaha community. It was an accompaniment to the virtual open house for ‘Āina Meeting 3, conducted from July 6 – 27, 2020, which was focused on presenting draft recommendations and to discuss priority improvements and phasing of these improvements for Farrington Highway. The Q&A provided an opportunity for people to ask questions of the project team that relate to the posted online open house materials.

The project team shared a brief presentation of what has been done so far for the project, facilitated a group Q&A session, and provided information on how the community can continue to participate and provide input for the project.

Agenda

- Welcome and Team Introductions
- Ground Rules
- Presentation
- Q&A Session
- Meeting De-Brief

Project Team Attendees:

HDOT: Ed Sniffen, Ken Tatsuguchi, Pat Tom, Shelly Kunishige, Jill Tanabe, Pua Aiu, George Abcede

SSFM: Sue LeBrun, Jared Chang, Melissa May, Matt Fernandez, Megan Julian, Vera Tong

Oceanit (Youth Engagement): Mark Kimura, Ian Kitajima

Community Participants:

- Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai, Hawaiian Homestead Association representative
- John Rogers, Hawai‘i Bicycling League
- Patrice Tanna (Senator Maile Shimabukuro’s office and Nānākuli Resident)



- Cynthia ____ (last name not provided)
- Pete Meinster (Waiʻanae Neighborhood Board member, Makaha Resident)
- Louis (Office of Councilmember Pine)
- Annie Likos (resident)

Presentation and Q&A

A copy of the presentation given at the meeting is appended to this summary. Following the presentation, attendees were given the opportunity to ask questions of the project team about the project. Questions could either be typed into the Microsoft Teams chat box, or they could verbally ask questions. A summary of questions received and answers provided is below.

Comments, Questions, and Answers

C: Not to distract from the advantage of including the existing students, but the initial presentation placed a lot of emphasis on local community engagement and using students from these communities. I acknowledge that the original plan was compromised due to COVID-19, but I feel this detracts from resident/community youth engagement from diverse schools and backgrounds. The degree of involvement has also diminished considerably.

A (Ed Sniffen, HDOT): As a result of COVID, we adjusted to the situation. We started to work with Nānākuli and Waiʻanae schools, but we couldn't continue to work with the schools. So, we went to the next best thing, which was Oceanit's program. Several of their students live in the Waiʻanae and Nānākuli communities. There are also youth who live in underserved communities in other parts of the state. The work that we are doing with the current students is allowing us to create a template to be able to bring this to as many students as possible. This also does not mean that the door has closed for working with students from the Waiʻanae and Nānākuli areas in the future. The projects that are generated from this project will be ongoing. There will be more opportunities to include more students in the future.

In a way COVID-19 was so disruptive, yet it pushed us to think of how we could put this project into a digital format that would allow us to bring this project to any student in any environment if we wanted to. Everything that we are doing with this current cohort of students could be replicated and brought back to the schools in Waiʻanae and Nānākuli.

Q: What are next steps with this study?

A: The next step with this study is to compile the input that we received from this meeting, through tonight and the open house, which goes until the 27th of July. We are going to take that input and use it to help revise the Operations Report and the Corridor Study, then submit the reports to HDOT for review. We encourage everyone to visit the open house and provide your input on the priorities and phasing proposals.



C: I don't see many resilience improvements being proposed in the slides. If they are there, they are slated for a very long-term development, and they don't seem holistic or encompassing. There are immediate and evolving challenges in this area about flooding and resilience to climate change, such as Mākaha slide drainage issues, and the retention wall by Lahilahi to stop the over wash onto the highway. We need more lasting actions for resilience. There is a lot of emphasis on infrastructure that is essentially already there, but resilience to climate change is lacking on all three slides. We need solutions for holistic resilience that will defend the coastline for years to come. This is something that concerns me.

In addition, at the onset of this initiative I was hoping that this study would bring together a holistic approach to improvements along the Farrington Highway corridor, but it seems like projects are still being put out with different contracts and are essentially being piecemealed. I would like to see more coordination and continuity.

A: There are some studies that are being done in parallel with this. Each study has a certain focus and it is hard to focus on an issue while also addressing the broader issues of the corridor. DOT has studies in parallel that are looking more in-depth at the resilience and shoreline protection issues: see the DOT Coastal Highway Program Report (2019). We didn't want to conflict or overlap with that, but consulted it in developing these solutions.

A: (Ed Sniffen, HDOT): A counter point is that if we focused on the bigger, long term projects, nothing would get done in the short term. This plan is meant to balance out what we can do now, while also planning out what is in the mid-term and what is in the long-term. Long-term view on climate change is coming up with a resiliency report statewide, we are not just looking at the Leeward coast, we are looking at resilience statewide to make sure that we do things properly for the whole state. But we are not going to wait for that to be completed to do improvements that are necessary. We are not going to wait to put in sidewalks, or lighting. This is just the first step of many that are going to come through to tie everything together.

C: The shared use path is nice, far preferable to remove both pedestrian and bicycle traffic from the main road. Ideally one could develop more shared use, isolated paths to physically sequester vehicular traffic from all other traffic.

Q: The shared use path from Pohakunui to Ko Olina was originally part of the Leeward bikeway, and I thought mostly federally funded. This project seems like it has been in the works for many years now. Because it was federally funded, is that a possible partner? Will that make it happen faster?

A: Having a project funded is one of many hurdles in getting a project done. In this case the potential shared use path will require a lot of coordination with a lot of different project development challenges that will go along with it. The initial leeward bikeway that you're talking about that we are constructing now, took 15 years. We had the funding 15 years ago, but it still took 15 years to start construction.



Q: Why is this called ‘Āina meetings when we're talking about traffic? When I see ‘Āina in a title, I'm thinking we're talking about lo'i, wai, or something we do with our hands in relationship to food, plants, sustainability, etc. Not the highways (roads) and traffic. Any chance of better identifying these meeting removing ‘Āina?

A: The use of ‘Āina came from discussions early in the process with Aunty Pua Burgess and some young people from the Westside - they were helping us in crafting the stakeholder engagement approach. It was their suggestion to call them ‘Āina meetings, the reasoning being to tie it to a place-based approach. They wanted it to be understood that when we are addressing Farrington Highway, we are looking at it in context of the place and the community, not just the highway itself.

Discussion De-Brief

All questions and discussion points from the Q&A Session were compiled and presented back to the community near the conclusion of the virtual community meeting. The discussion de-brief is shown below:

DE-BRIEF:

- Concern/interest for deepening youth involvement from the Westside
- Question about next steps for the project.
- Balance of projects that are oriented toward traffic control vs. resilience. Resilience improvements are few and long-term. The drainage improvements are fixing problems that already exist, not addressing future flooding issues.
- Need to bring together the disparate projects that are happening along Farrington Highway into a coherent program, not piecemeal. Corridor study should incorporate the existing projects as well as the proposed projects.
- Support for shared use paths that separate ped/bike from vehicle traffic. Tie into Leeward Bikeway project (Federally funded) to make it happen faster?

16

Farrington Highway Corridor Study

Project Area Map



ATTENTION: This meeting is being recorded and will be shared on the project website.

Virtual 'Āina Meetings Round 3 Q&A Sessions:

July 16 (Wai'anāe/Mākahe) & July 24 (Nānākuli/Mā'ili), 2020

SSFM
International



TITLE VI Virtual Public Involvement Form

- As a recipient of federal funds, HDOT is required to gather statistical data on participants and beneficiaries of HDOT activities.
- This Voluntary Title VI Virtual Public Involvement Data Form collects information on race, color, national origin, and sex of the attendees of this virtual public meeting.
- Data collected will help HDOT improve its services to the community and ensure that all segments of the population are served equitably, including in a virtual context due to COVID-19 social distancing.
- Follow link below or in the chat to fill out the form.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xt5HOLJj-UOm0FikCqoaEF9tIr5kbRtEtyn6pyXDU3RUNVEwWDJMWUowQkEwUEJLNzdNREILQTVRQS4u>

Voluntary Title VI Virtual Public Involvement Data Form

As a recipient of federal funds, the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) is required to gather statistical data on participants and beneficiaries of HDOT programs and activities. Accordingly, and in light of social distancing requirements resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, this Voluntary Title VI Virtual Public Involvement Data Form collects information on race, color, national origin, and sex of the attendees of this virtual public meeting. The requested information is to help HDOT improve its services to the community and ensure that all segments of the population are served equitably, including in a virtual context in light of social distancing requirements.

COMPLETING THIS FORM IS STRICTLY VOLUNTARY. You are not required to disclose the information requested in order to participate in this meeting. This form follows the demographic category guidelines set forth by the U.S. Census Bureau and the Office of Management and Budget.

The completed forms will be kept confidential. For further information regarding this process, please contact the HDOT Office of Civil Rights at:

Hawaii Department of Transportation
Office of Civil Rights
200 Rodgers Boulevard
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
(808) 831-7912
Email: hdot-titlevi@hawaii.gov

*** Required**

1. Race of Virtual Attendee (Please mark one or more) *

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

☐ Asian

☐ Black or African American

☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

☐ White

☐ Other

2. If you marked "Asian" and/or "Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander" please fill in your ethnic background or backgrounds below (e.g. "Vietnamese" or "Samoa, Tongan, Chinese") *

3. Ethnicity of Virtual Attendee *

☐ Hispanic/Latino

☐ Not Hispanic/Latino

4. Sex *

☐ Woman

☐ Man

☐ Non-binary

☐ Prefer not to say

MEETING GROUND RULES

ATTENTION: This meeting is being recorded and will be shared on the project website.

We ask for your Kokua so that we can have a productive meeting:

- Mute yourself when not speaking
- Use Chat to type your question, or type “Question” if you would like to voice your question (1 minute or less per question)
- Do not unmute yourself until the moderator calls on you
- Be respectful of others
- Do not use chat for sidebar conversations/comments
- Do not share your screen
- Disruptive participants will be removed from the meeting



Introduction & Meeting Goals

MEETING PURPOSE

- Continue collaborating with the community to develop solutions for Farrington Highway.
- Answer your questions and hear your input on draft priorities and phasing for Farrington Highway and other materials posted on the project's virtual open house.

AGENDA

- **Welcome & Meeting Purpose**
- **Introductions & Ground Rules**
- **Q&A**
- **De-Brief**
- **Next Steps**

INTRODUCTIONS: TEAM

Hawai'i Department of Transportation

- Ed Sniffen (Deputy Director)
- George Abcede (Acting Administrator)
- Ken Tatsuguchi (Head Planning Engineer)
- Patrick Tom (Planning Engineer)
- Jill Tanabe (Planning Engineer)
- Pua Aiu (Planning Specialist)
- Shelly Kunishige (Public Affairs)

Consultant Team (SSFM)

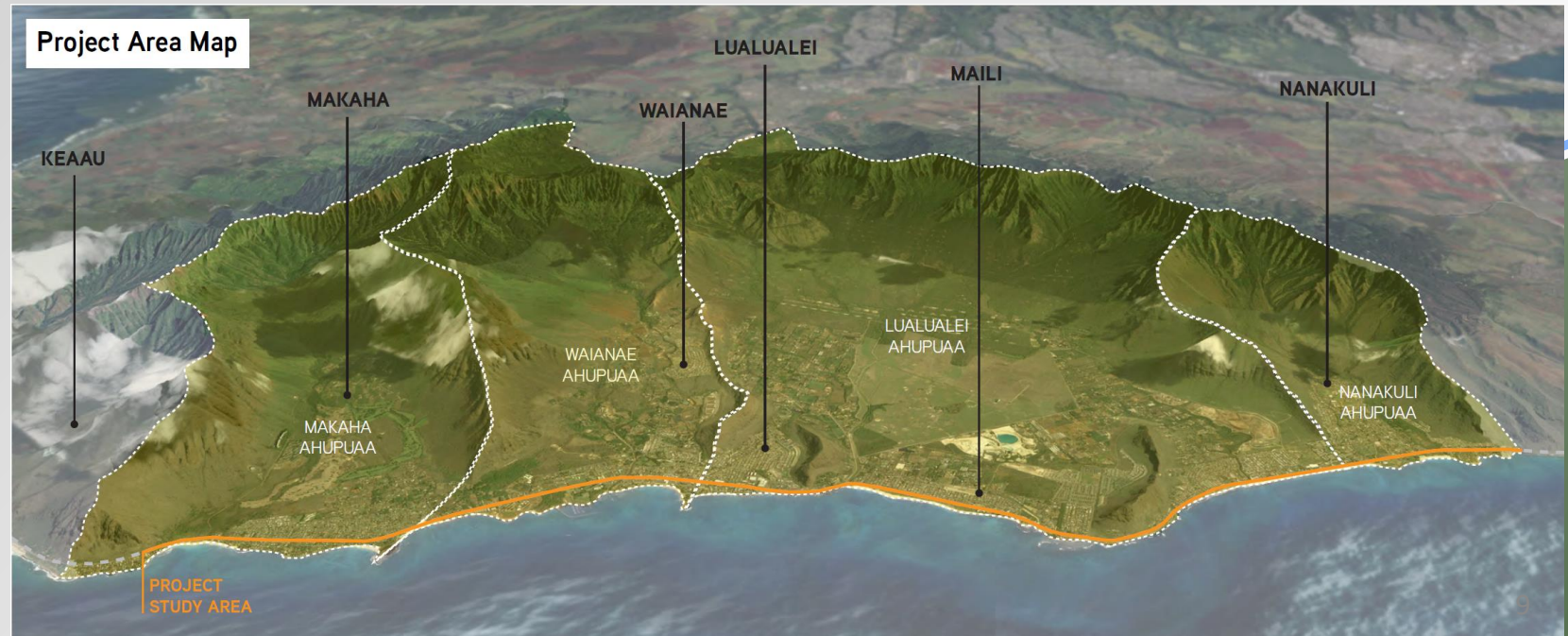
- Sue LeBrun (Traffic Engineer)
- Melissa May (Planner)
- Jared Chang (Planner)
- Matt Fernandez (Planner)
- Puanani Burgess (Community Engagement Specialist)
- Lelemia Irvine, Pat Uchigakiuchi, Pua Ena Burgess
- Oceanit (Youth Engagement)

INTRODUCTIONS

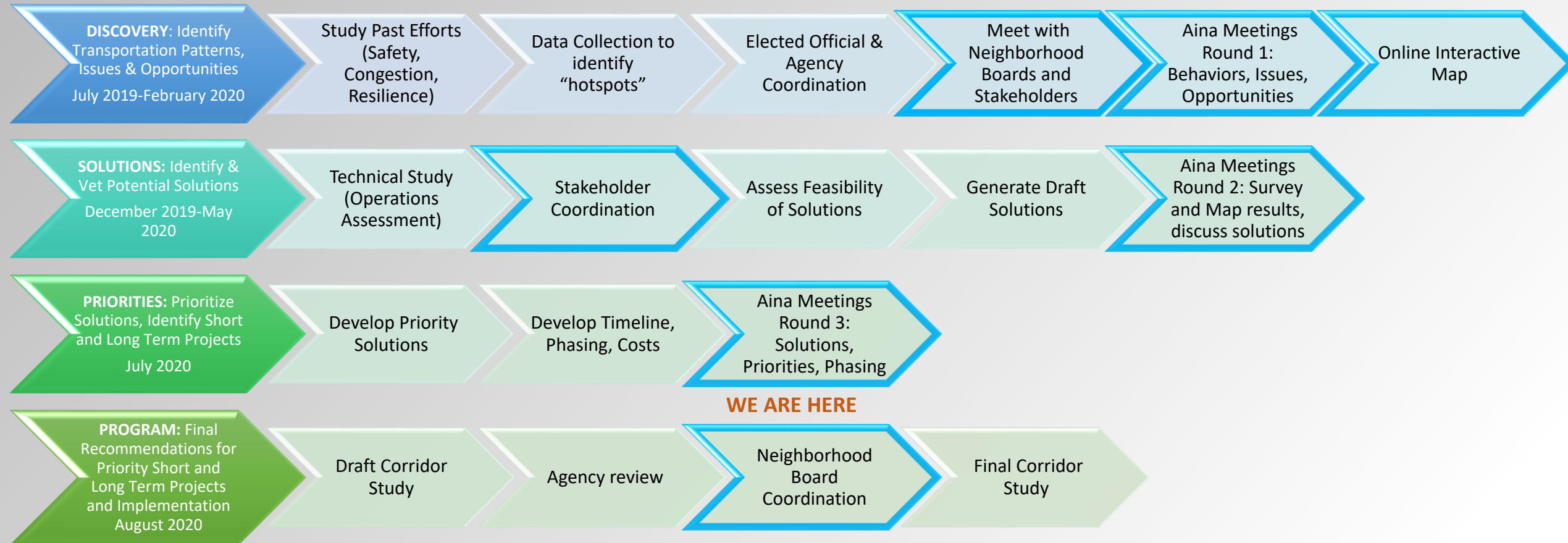
- Now it's your turn to introduce yourselves:
In the meeting chat, tell us your name and where you live
- Next, share in the chat what brought you here today

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- The Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT) Highways Division is conducting a study to determine the long term vision and management for Farrington Highway Corridor (Route 93).
- The study will analyze and identify short (6 months - 2 years) and long (2 - 20 or more years) term multimodal solutions that address:
 - Safety
 - Congestion
 - Resilience



PLANNING PROCESS



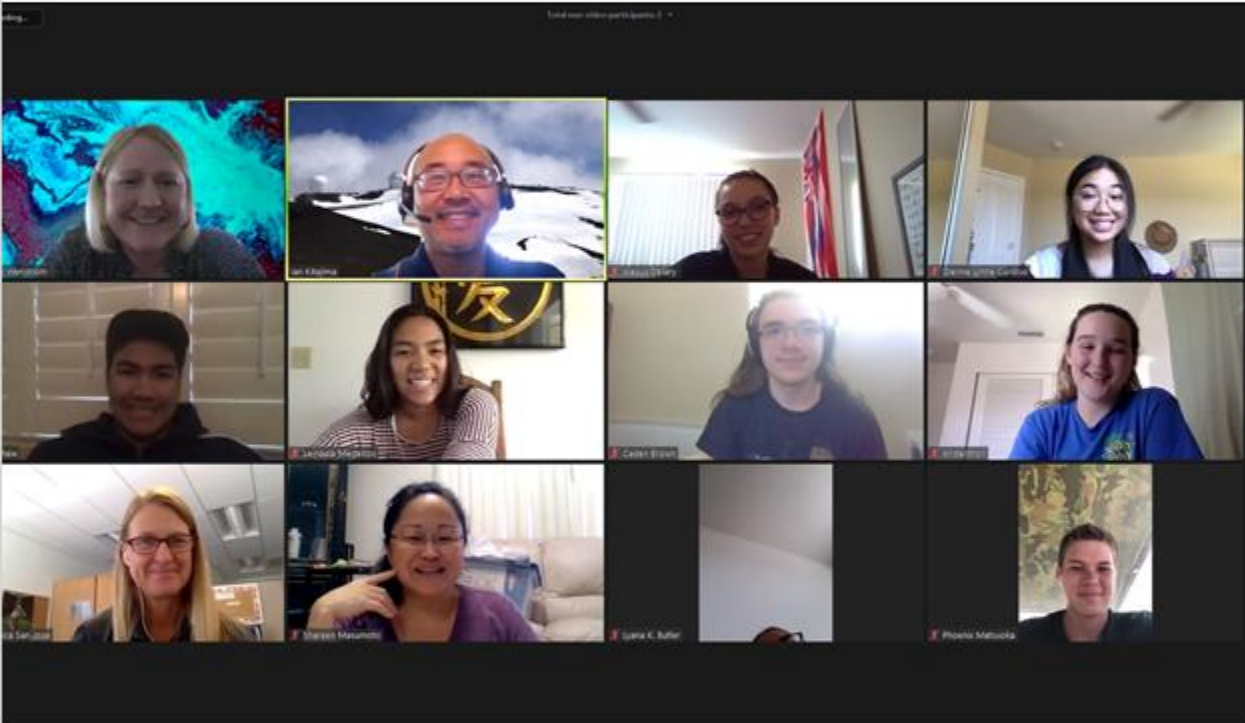
Opportunities for Community Input*

* Input may also be provided anytime during the process by e-mail or phone – see website for details!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Agency & Elected Official Outreach
- Neighborhood Board Presentations & Transportation Committees
- Stakeholder Meetings
- Drive/Walk Audit (2/8)
- School Coordination & Youth Engagement with KMAPP/Oceanit
- 'Āina Meetings Round 1 (2/20, 2/24)
- Survey and Interactive Map (through 4/24)
- 'Āina Meetings Round 2 (virtual open house, May 2020)





Aloha AI Student Trailblazers #2

June 2020
Mary Wenstrom, Ian Kitajima



ALOHA AI STUDENT TRAILBLAZERS - COHORT 1

- **LAUNCHED JUNE 2020,
MULTIPLE 1.5 HOUR SESSIONS**

- **HAWAI'I TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY**

- **17 STUDENTS AND 5 TEACHERS**

with 4 more teachers popping in when they can
(9 teachers total)

- **GRADE LEVELS**

upcoming 10, 11, 12th graders and also recent seniors

- **MALES VS. FEMALES**

8 males ::: 9 females

- **HOMETOWN - STATEWIDE**

8 students from the Nānākuli-Wai'anae area; 2 from O'ahu but not from Nānākuli-Wai'anae; 3 from Kaua'i; 2 from Maui; 2 from Big Island

Jul 3, 2020 - Jul 3, 2020

Client

Class

Hour

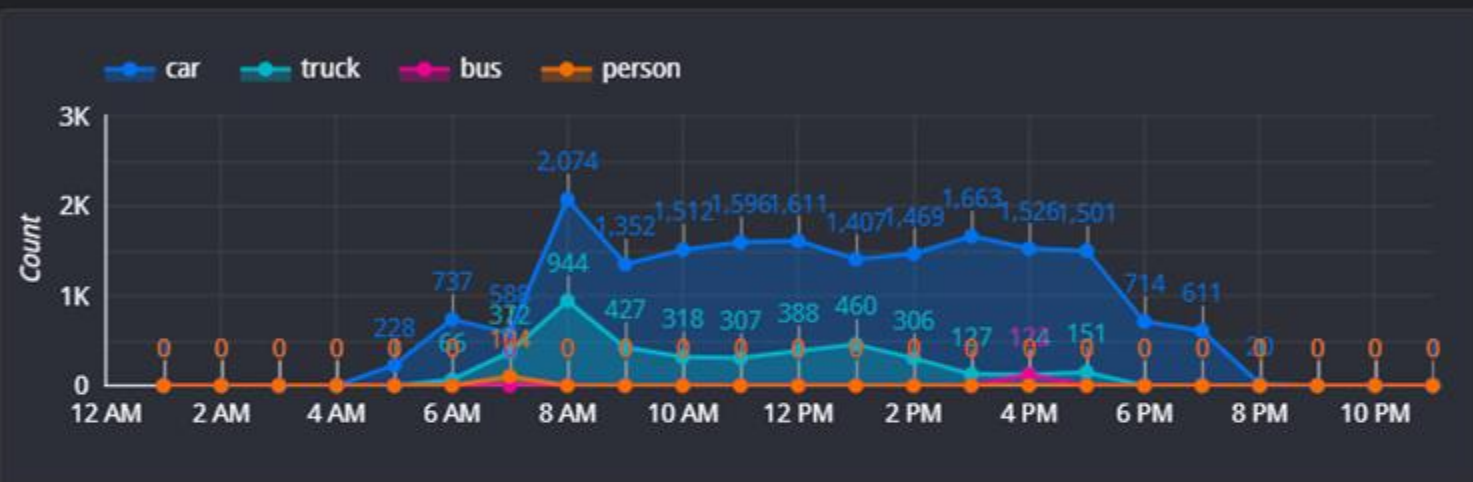
Device

Top Traffic Today

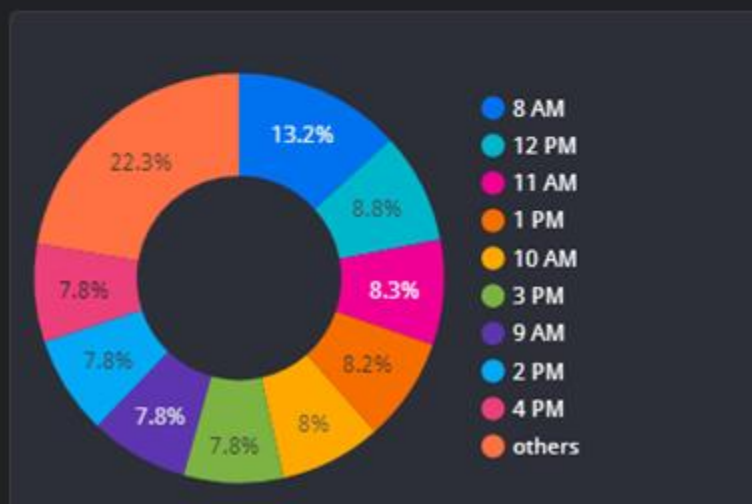
Device		Count
1.	WCCMHC_001	22,828
Grand total		22,828

1 - 1 / 1

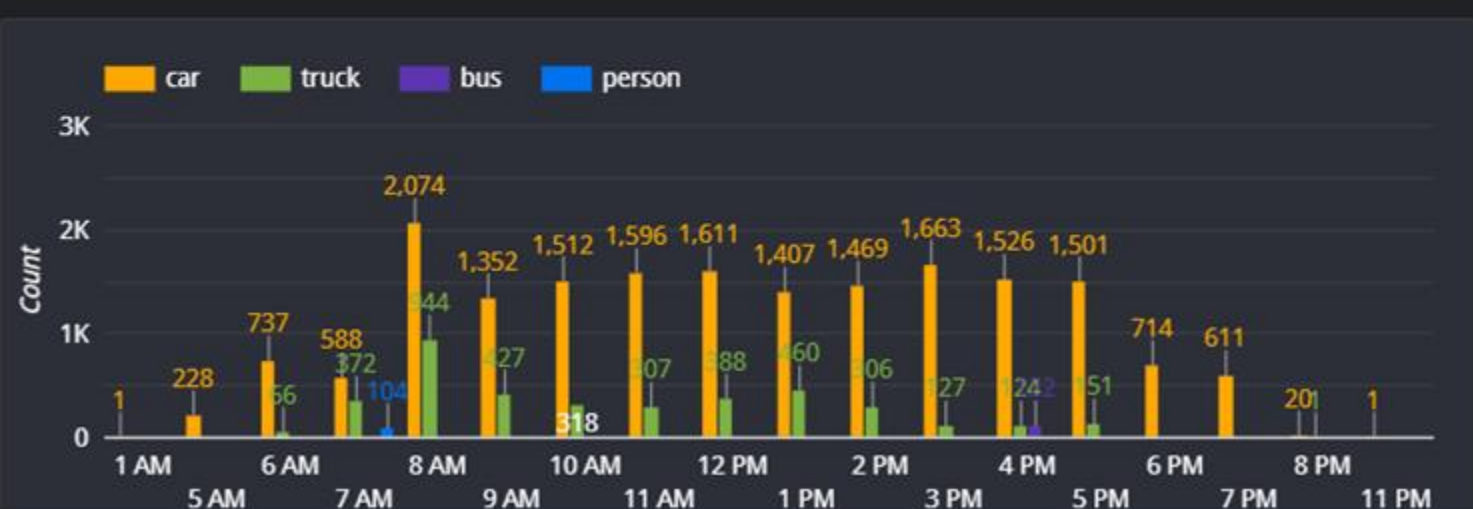
Traffic By Hour



Percent by Hour



Traffic By Class



REMINDER: GROUND RULES

We ask for your Kokua so that we can have a productive meeting:

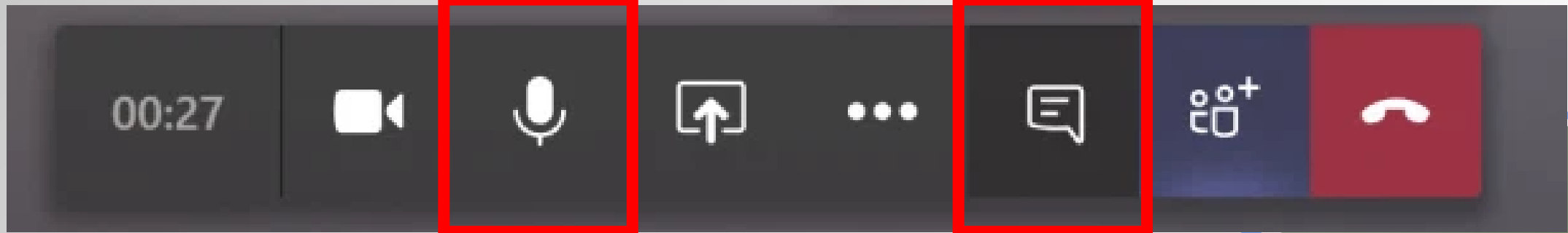
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- Do not unmute yourself until the moderator calls on you
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PROTOCOL FOR ASKING QUESTIONS...

Use the Microphone
(mute/unmute button
to speak



Use Chat to type your
question, or type
“Question” if you
would like to voice your
question



1. Mute yourself when not speaking
2. Do not unmute yourself until the moderator calls on you

DE-BRIEF: Q&A Session 1 July 16, 2020

- Concern/interest for deepening youth involvement from the Westside
- Question about next steps for the project.
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HOW TO PROVIDE INPUT:

- Virtual Open House & Forum:
 - <http://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/farringtoncorridorstudy/>
 - Visit the forum to review posted materials, take a poll, ask questions, and add your comments.
 - Open July 6-27, 2020!
- E-mail us your comments:
 - Melissa May, mmay@ssfm.com

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

ONLINE OPEN HOUSE

July 6-27, 2020

Visit the open house to watch a presentation, review priority solutions and add your input!



Find the Open House, Q&A links, and materials from prior meetings on the project website:

<https://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/farrington-corridorstudy/>

VIRTUAL Q&A SESSIONS

Wai`anae/Mākaha:

July 16, 2020

5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

Nānākuli/Ma`ili:

July 24, 2020

12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.

MAHALO

Contact us with questions or comments:

SSFM International

Contact: Melissa May

Phone: 808-628-5861

Email: mmay@ssfm.com

Project Website :

<http://hidot.hawaii.gov/highways/farringtoncorridorstudy/>